

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4544
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
SURPLUS STOCK OF FOODGRAINS
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of surplus stocks of foodgrains in the country as on date, grain-wise;
- (b) whether the Indian Science Congress held in 2001 has made recommendations regarding better utilization of surplus stocks of foodgrains;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has considered these recommendations;
- (e) if so, the details of recommendations that have been implemented so far; and
- (f) by when the remaining recommendations are likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): The stock of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central Pool against the prescribed buffer stocking norms as on 1.1.2005 is indicated below:-

(In lakh tonnes)

Foodgrains		Buffer Norms	
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Rice		Wheat	
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127.63	89.31	84.00	84.00
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(b) & (c): The Indian Science Congress recommended in 2001 that the food surpluses can be harnessed effectively for (i) distribution to people below poverty line,
(ii) building required rural infrastructure, and (iii) the generation of employment for the rural poor.

(d), (e) & (f): In order to liquidate excess stocks, the Government increased the allocation for Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families from 25 Kgs per family per month to 35 Kgs per family per month with effect from 01.04.2002. Two major schemes involving allocation of foodgrains aimed at building rural infrastructure and generation of employment for the rural poor, viz. Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) and National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP) are under implementation.